WHS:fc

N081

THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

EXCISE

JW

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MT
REVIEWED BY EBS DATE 3/11/82
Classified SECRET OADR
TOP SECRET SECURITY INFORMATION
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
Special Liaison Officer from
American Embassy, Rome, Italy, to
HAFSE, Naples, Italy

April 13, 1953

Dear Jeff:

You have received a copy of Leonard Unger's letter of March 30 to Francis Williamson enclosing a memorandum with some thoughts on Albania and you are, of course, alive to our continuing interest in that country. The present surge in interest does not arise from the rumors newly being coined by our Italian friends about trouble in Tirana and treachery in Belgrade, but rather from a purely hypothetical concern over Soviet intentions.

Assuming that the new Soviet regime is given to more astute diplomacy and more daring moves than its predecessor, it is quite conceivable that the Kremlin may some fine morning decide that Albania is worth less as an outpost on the Adriatic than it is as a bone of contention among Greece, Italy and Yugoslavia. Continuing the assumption that the Soviets will exploit any opportunity to disrupt our system of alliances, they could conceivably resolve to toss Hodja and Company to the wolves in order to set Greece, Italy and Yugoslavia at each other's throats. Realizing that they have it in their power to do this tomorrow, and knowing the disposition of our allies and associates towards the problem, we are in a position to be thoroughly embarrassed by such a move and the strength of our system in this area could be severely shaken.

767.00/4-1353

TOP SECRET FILE

J. Graham Parsons, Esquire,
Deputy Director,
Office of European Regional Affairs,
Department of State,
Washington 25, D.C.

DC/R
Anal JL
Rev
Cat

274374

~~TOP SECRET SECURITY INFORMATION~~
SECRET OADR

UNCLASSIFIED

B-1

Any light you may be able to shed on the foregoing and any guidance you can give on the questions raised in Leonard's "thinkpiece" would be highly appreciated and are eagerly awaited.

Bill Sullivan

William H. Sullivan
Second Secretary of Embassy

DECLASSIFIED

86 101